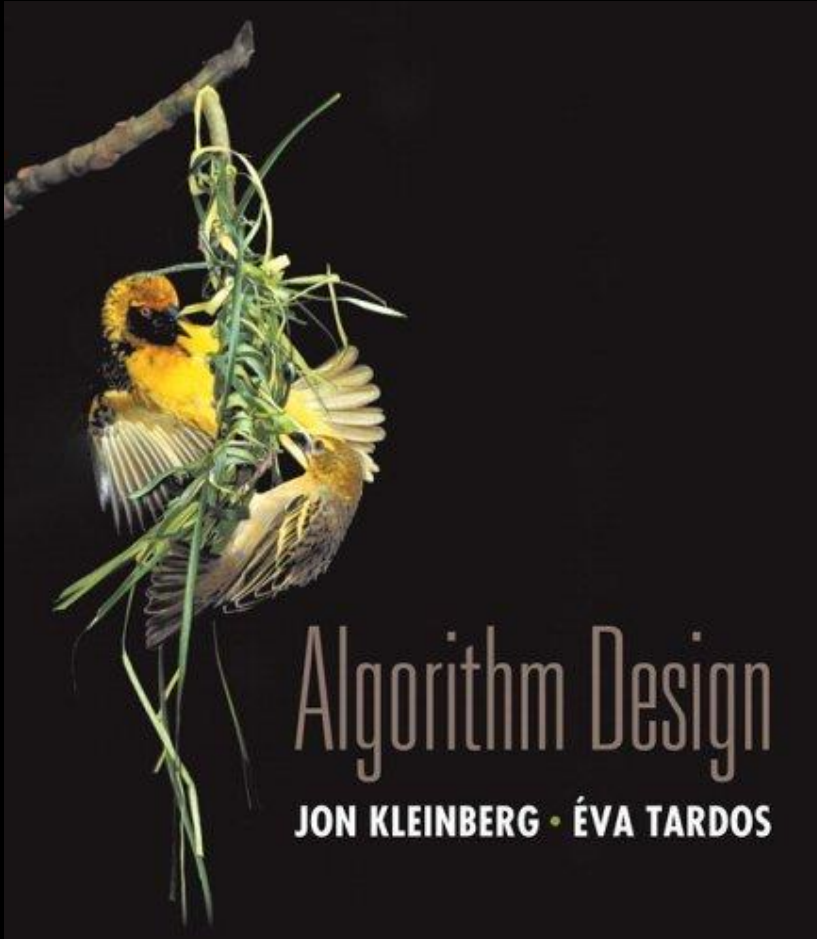


# Chapter 4

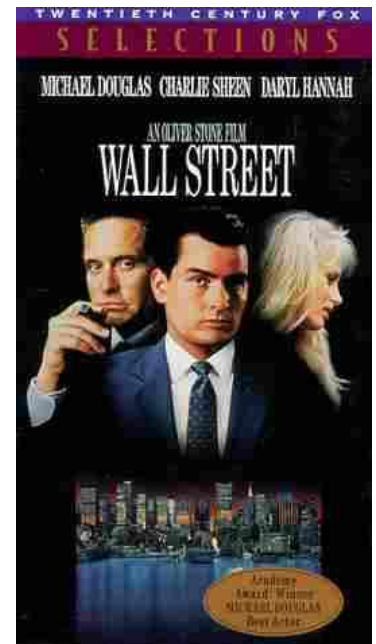
## Greedy Algorithms



Slides by Kevin Wayne.  
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Greed is good. Greed is right. Greed works.  
Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the  
essence of the evolutionary spirit.

- *Gordon Gecko (Michael Douglas)*



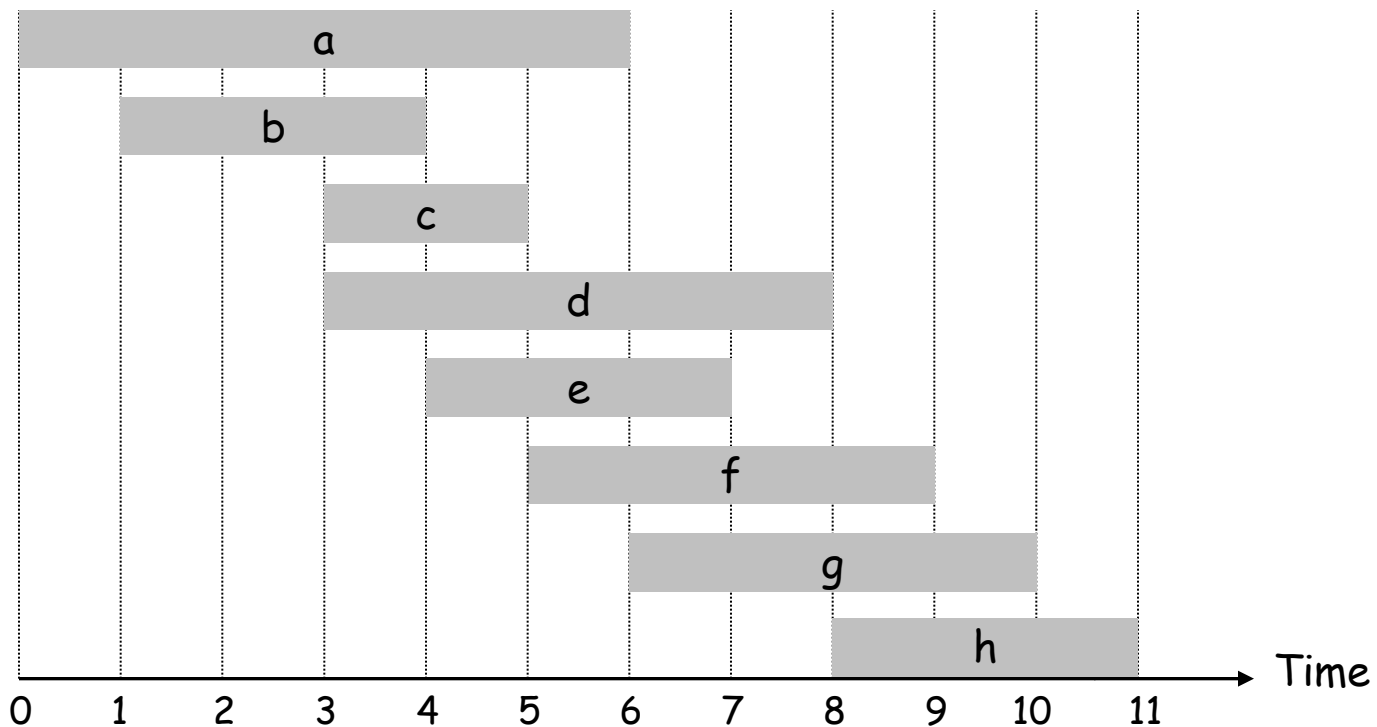
# 4.1 Interval Scheduling

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# Interval Scheduling

## Interval scheduling.

- Job  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Two jobs **compatible** if they don't overlap.
- Goal: find maximum subset of mutually compatible jobs.



# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

**Greedy template.** Consider jobs in some order. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.

- [Earliest start time] Consider jobs in ascending order of start time  $s_j$ .
- [Earliest finish time] Consider jobs in ascending order of finish time  $f_j$ .
- [Shortest interval] Consider jobs in ascending order of interval length  $f_j - s_j$ .
- [Fewest conflicts] For each job, count the number of conflicting jobs  $c_j$ . Schedule in ascending order of conflicts  $c_j$ .

# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithms

*Greedy template.* Consider jobs in some order. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.



breaks earliest start time



breaks shortest interval

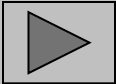


breaks fewest conflicts

# Interval Scheduling: Greedy Algorithm

**Greedy algorithm.** Consider jobs in increasing order of finish time. Take each job provided it's compatible with the ones already taken.

```
Sort jobs by finish times so that  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$ .  
  ↙ jobs selected  
A ←  $\phi$   
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (job j compatible with A)  
        A ← A  $\cup$  {j}  
}  
return A
```



**Implementation.**  $O(n \log n)$ .

- Remember job  $j^*$  that was added last to A.
- Job j is compatible with A if  $s_j \geq f_{j^*}$ .

# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

**Optimal Solutions.** There may be more than one optimal solutions for the same instance



**Prefix of a solution.** Define the prefix of length  $I$  of a solution  $S$  as the first  $I$  jobs of  $S$

The prefix of length 2 of  $AGD$  is  $AG$

**Similarity of two solutions  $S$  e  $S'$ .** The largest  $j$  such that  $S$  and  $S'$  shares a prefix of length  $j$

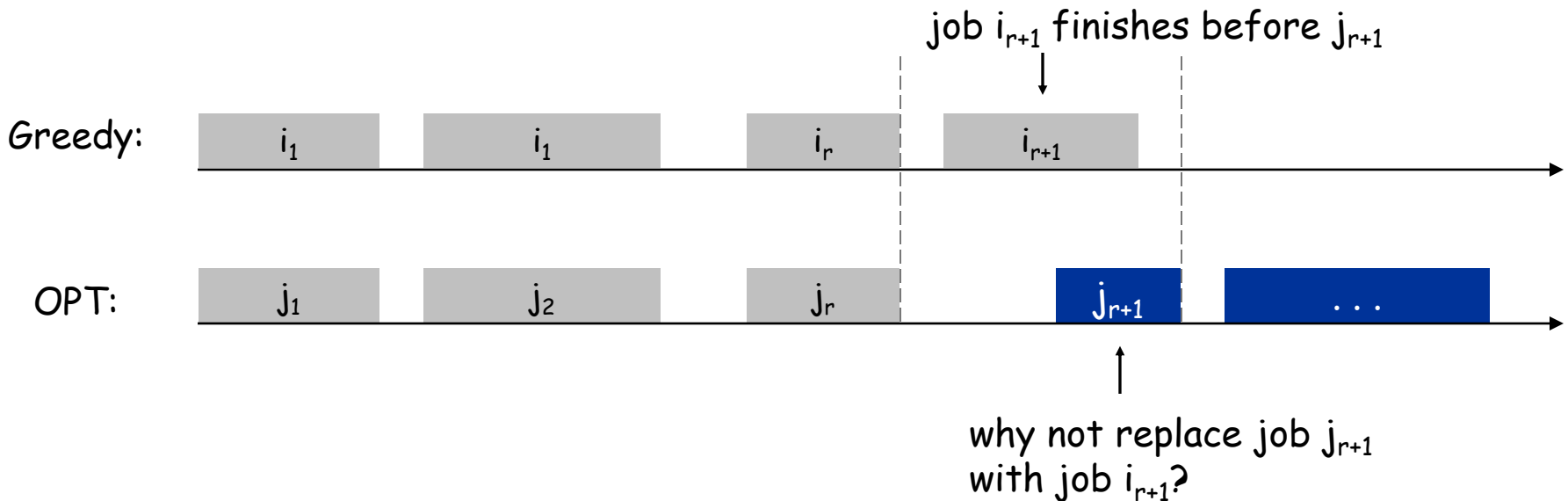


# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.** (by contradiction)

- Assume greedy is not optimal, and let's see what happens.
- Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  denote set of jobs selected by greedy.
- Let  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  denote set of jobs in the optimal solution which is more similar to greedy's solution

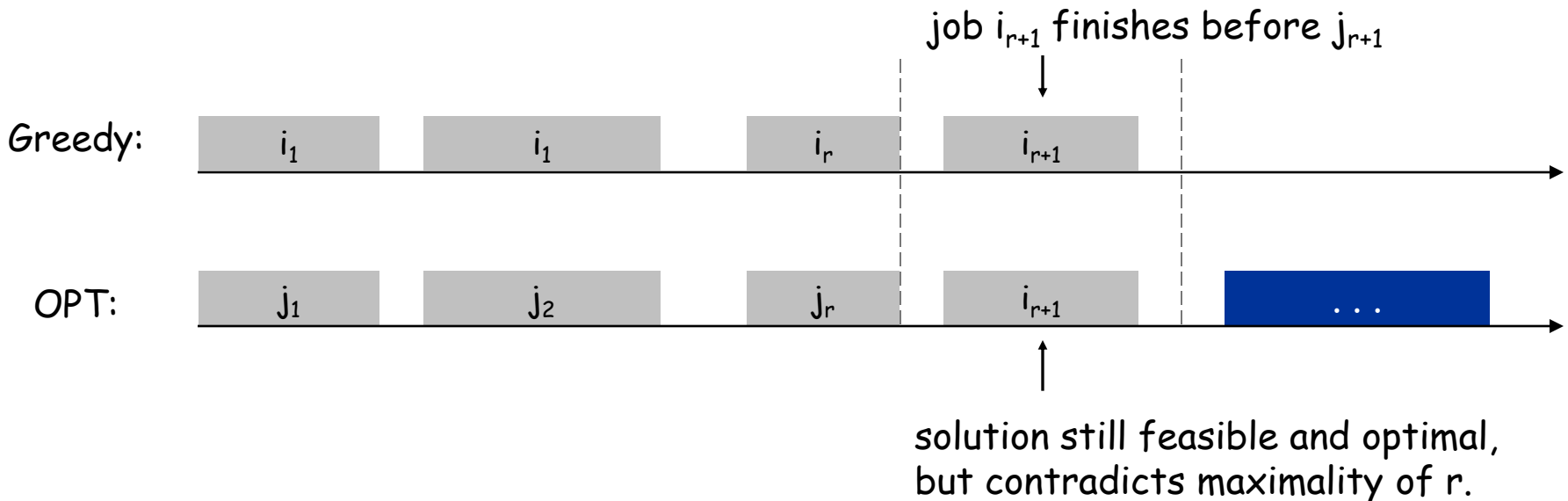


# Interval Scheduling: Analysis

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# 4.1 Interval Partitioning

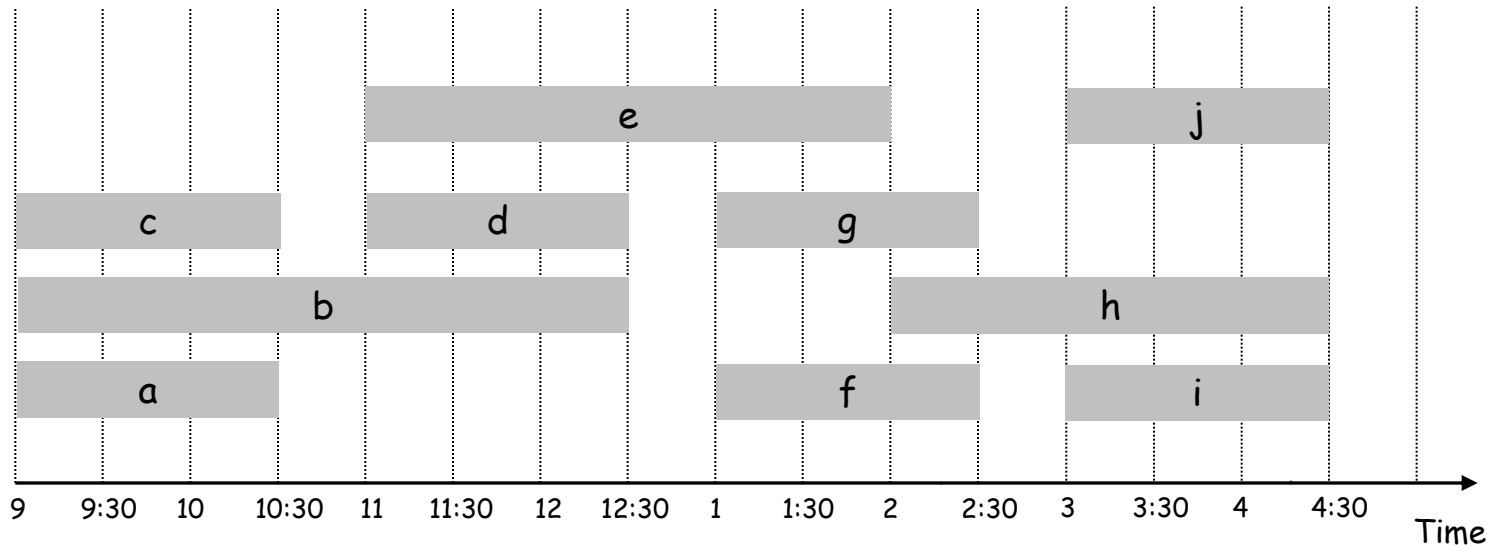
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# Interval Partitioning

## Interval partitioning.

- Lecture  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Ex: This schedule uses 4 classrooms to schedule 10 lectures.

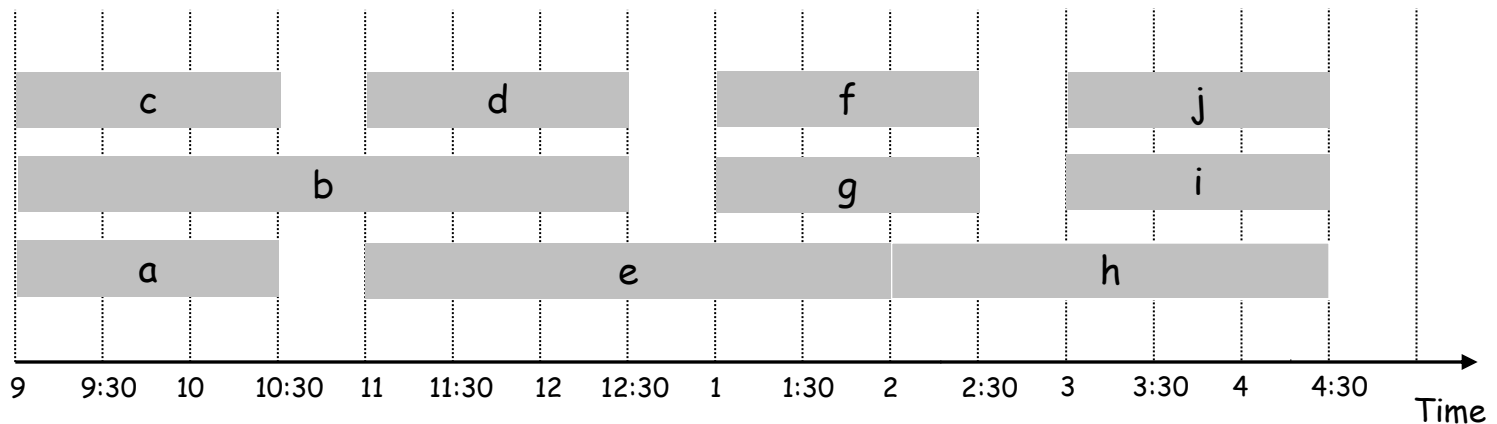


# Interval Partitioning

## Interval partitioning.

- Lecture  $j$  starts at  $s_j$  and finishes at  $f_j$ .
- Goal: find minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Ex: This schedule uses only 3.



# Interval Partitioning: Lower Bound on Optimal Solution

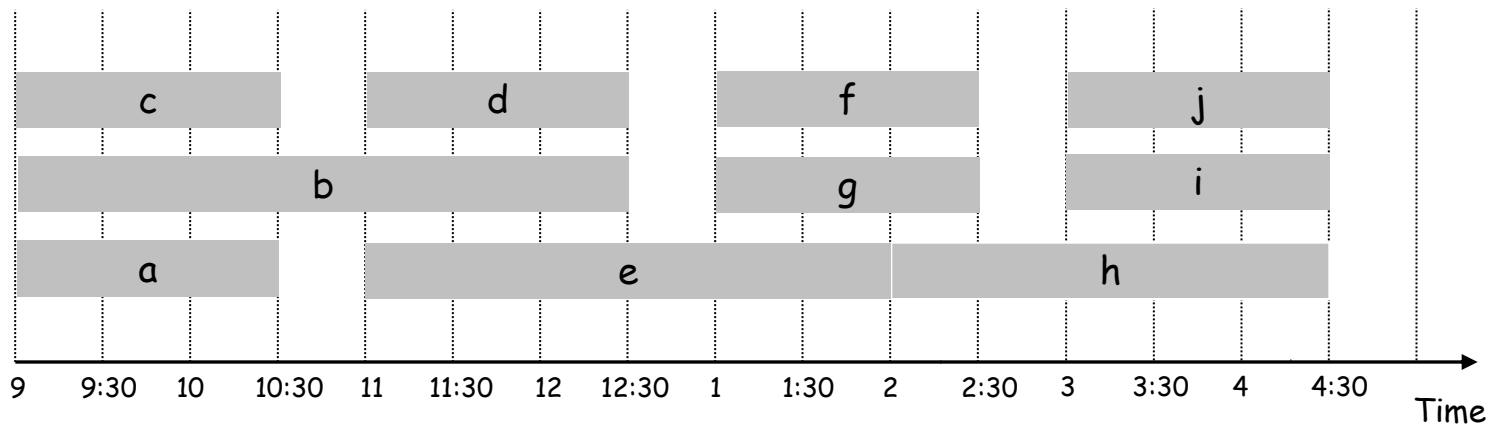
**Def.** The **depth** of a set of open intervals is the maximum number that contain any given time.

**Key observation.** Number of classrooms needed  $\geq$  depth.

**Ex:** Depth of schedule below = 3  $\Rightarrow$  schedule below is optimal.

↑  
a, b, c all contain 9:30

**Q.** Does there always exist a schedule equal to depth of intervals?



# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

**Greedy algorithm.** Consider lectures in increasing order of start time: assign lecture to any compatible classroom.

```
Sort intervals by starting time so that  $s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_n$ .  
d  $\leftarrow$  0  $\leftarrow$  number of allocated classrooms  
  
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (lecture j is compatible with some classroom k)  
        schedule lecture j in classroom k  
    else  
        allocate a new classroom d + 1  
        schedule lecture j in classroom d + 1  
        d  $\leftarrow$  d + 1  
}
```

# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

**Greedy algorithm.** Consider lectures in increasing order of start time: assign lecture to any compatible classroom.

```
Sort intervals by starting time so that  $s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_n$ .  
d  $\leftarrow$  0  $\leftarrow$  number of allocated classrooms  
  
for j = 1 to n {  
    if (lecture j is compatible with some classroom k)  
        schedule lecture j in classroom k  
    else  
        allocate a new classroom d + 1  
        schedule lecture j in classroom d + 1  
        d  $\leftarrow$  d + 1  
}
```



## Interval Partitioning: Greedy Analysis

**Observation.** Greedy algorithm never schedules two incompatible lectures in the same classroom.

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.**

- Let  $d$  = number of classrooms that the greedy algorithm allocates.
- Classroom  $d$  is opened because we needed to schedule a job, say  $j$ , that is incompatible with all  $d-1$  other classrooms.
- Since we sorted by start time, all these incompatibilities are caused by lectures that start no later than  $s_j$ .
- Thus, we have  $d$  lectures overlapping at time  $s_j + \epsilon$ .
- Key observation  $\Rightarrow$  all schedules use  $\geq d$  classrooms. ■

# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

Implementation.  $O(n^2)$ .

- For each classroom  $k$ , maintain the finish time of the last job added.
- Keep the classrooms in a list

`if (lecture  $j$  is compatible with some classroom  $k$ )`

    Compare start time of  $j$  with the finish time of each  
    class:  $o(n)$  time

`schedule lecture  $j$  in classroom  $k$`

        Replace the current finish time of of class  $k$  to  $f_j$ :  
         $O(1)$  time

`allocate a new classroom  $d + 1$`

`schedule lecture  $j$  in classroom  $d + 1$`

        Insert a new class in the list of classes with finish  
        time  $f_j$ :  $o(1)$  time

# Interval Partitioning: Greedy Algorithm

Implementation.  $O(n \log n)$ .

- For each classroom  $k$ , maintain the finish time of the last job added.
- Keep the classrooms in a priority queue.

`if (lecture j is compatible with some classroom k)`

    Compare start time of  $j$  with the finish time of the  
    class at the root of the heap

`schedule lecture j in classroom k`

    Change the priority of the root of heap to  $f_j$

    Updated the heap :  $O(\log n)$  time

`allocate a new classroom  $d + 1$`

`schedule lecture j in classroom  $d + 1$`

    Insert a new class at the heap with priority  $f_j$ :

$O(\log n)$

## 4.2 Scheduling to Minimize Lateness

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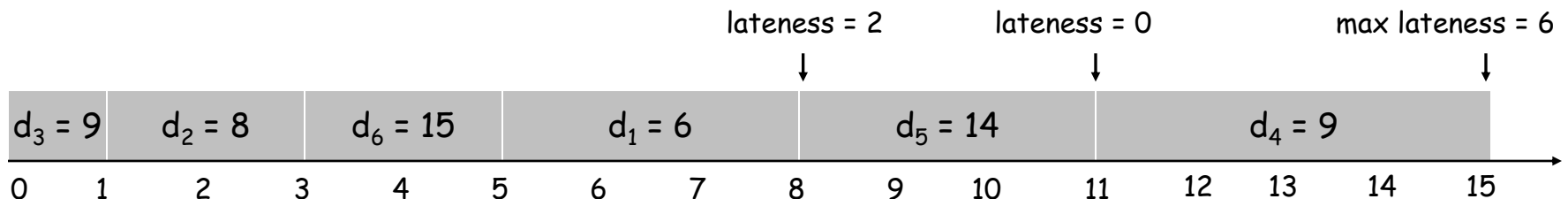
# Scheduling to Minimizing Lateness

## Minimizing lateness problem.

- Single resource processes one job at a time.
- Job  $j$  requires  $t_j$  units of processing time and is due at time  $d_j$ .
- If  $j$  starts at time  $s_j$ , it finishes at time  $f_j = s_j + t_j$ .
- Lateness:  $l_j = \max \{ 0, f_j - d_j \}$ .
- Goal: schedule all jobs to minimize **maximum** lateness  $L = \max l_j$ .

Ex:

	1	2	3	4	5	6
$t_j$	3	2	1	4	3	2
$d_j$	6	8	9	9	14	15



# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithms

Greedy template. Consider jobs in some order.

- [Shortest processing time first] Consider jobs in ascending order of processing time  $t_j$ .
- [Earliest deadline first] Consider jobs in ascending order of deadline  $d_j$ .
- [Smallest slack] Consider jobs in ascending order of slack  $d_j - t_j$ .

# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithms

Greedy template. Consider jobs in some order.

- [Shortest processing time first] Consider jobs in ascending order of processing time  $t_j$ .

	1	2
$t_j$	1	10
$d_j$	100	10

counterexample

- [Smallest slack] Consider jobs in ascending order of slack  $d_j - t_j$ .

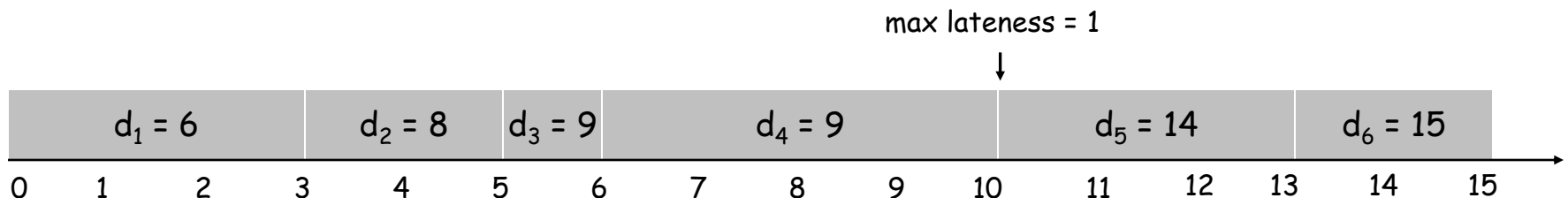
	1	2
$t_j$	1	10
$d_j$	2	10

counterexample

# Minimizing Lateness: Greedy Algorithm

Greedy algorithm. Earliest deadline first.

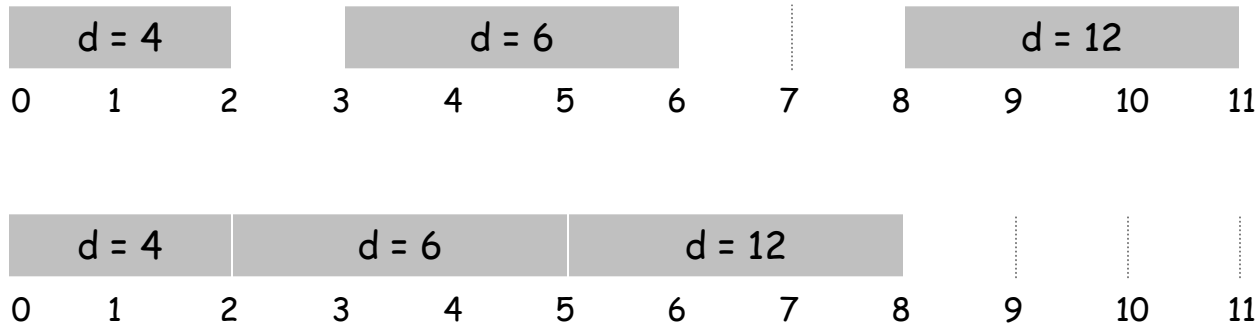
```
Sort n jobs by deadline so that  $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$   
  
t ← 0  
for j = 1 to n  
    Assign job j to interval [t, t + tj]  
    sj ← t, fj ← t + tj  
    t ← t + tj  
output intervals [sj, fj]
```





# Minimizing Lateness: No Idle Time

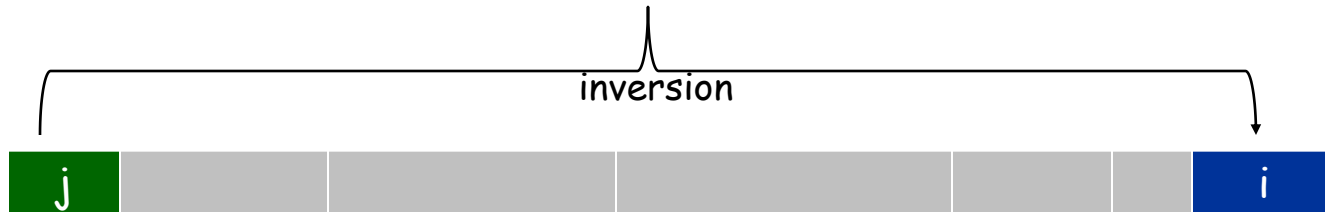
Observation. There exists an optimal schedule with no **idle time**.



Observation. The greedy schedule has no idle time.

## Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** An **inversion** in schedule  $S$  is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $d_i < d_j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .

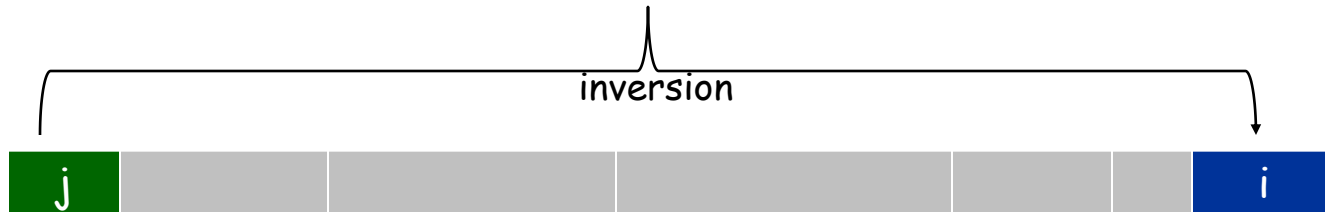


**Observation 1.** Greedy schedule has no inversions. All schedules with no inversions have the same lateness

- In a schedule with no inversions, the lateness of a job  $j$  with deadline  $d$  is the given by  $\max\{0, f - d\}$ , where  $f$  is the completion time of the last scheduled job of deadline  $j$ .

# Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** An **inversion** in schedule  $S$  is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $d_i < d_j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .



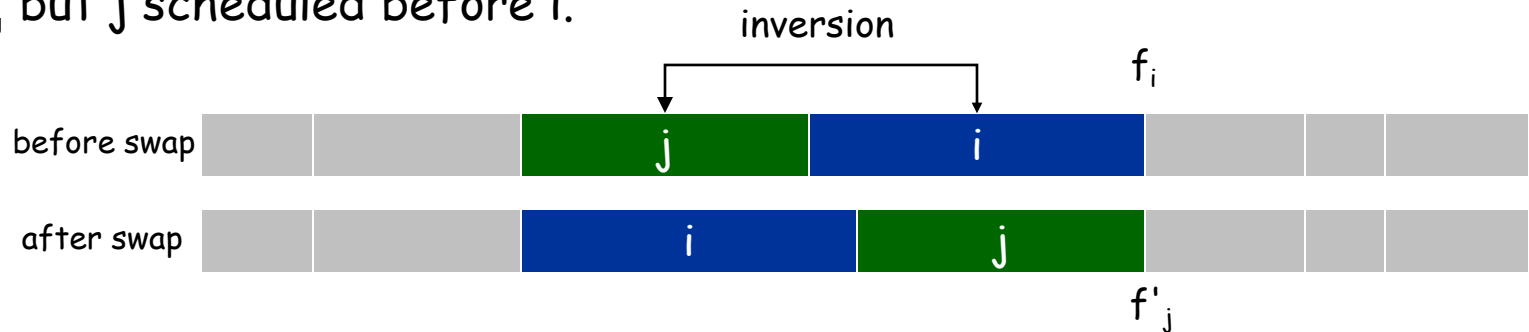
**Observation 2.** If a schedule (with no idle time) has an inversion, it has one with a pair of inverted jobs scheduled consecutively.

To see that consider the job  $k$  with largest deadline among the jobs between  $j$  and  $i$ . In case of ties, pick the rightmost one.  $k$  and  $k+1$  form a consecutive inversion



# Minimizing Lateness: Inversions

**Def.** An **inversion** in schedule  $S$  is a pair of jobs  $i$  and  $j$  such that:  $d_i < d_j$  but  $j$  scheduled before  $i$ .



**Claim.** Swapping two adjacent, inverted jobs reduces the number of inversions by one and does not increase the max lateness.

**Pf.** Let  $\ell$  be the lateness before the swap, and let  $\ell'$  be it afterwards.

- $\ell'_k = \ell_k$  for all  $k \neq i, j$
- $\ell'_i \leq \ell_i$
- If job  $j$  is late:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ell'_j &= f'_j - d_j && \text{(definition)} \\
 &= f_i - d_j && \text{(} j \text{ finishes at time } f_i \text{)} \\
 &\leq f_i - d_i && \text{(} i < j \text{)} \\
 &\leq \ell_i && \text{(definition)}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Minimizing Lateness: Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

**Theorem.** Greedy schedule  $S$  is optimal.

**Pf.** Define  $S^*$  to be an optimal schedule that has the fewest number of inversions, and let's see what happens.

- Can assume  $S^*$  has no idle time.
- If  $S^*$  has no inversions, then  $S = S^*$ .
- If  $S^*$  has an inversion, let  $i$ - $j$  be an adjacent inversion.
  - swapping  $i$  and  $j$  does not increase the maximum lateness and strictly decreases the number of inversions
  - this contradicts definition of  $S^*$  ▪

# Greedy Analysis Strategies

**Greedy algorithm stays ahead.** Show that after each step of the greedy algorithm, its solution is at least as good as any other algorithm's.

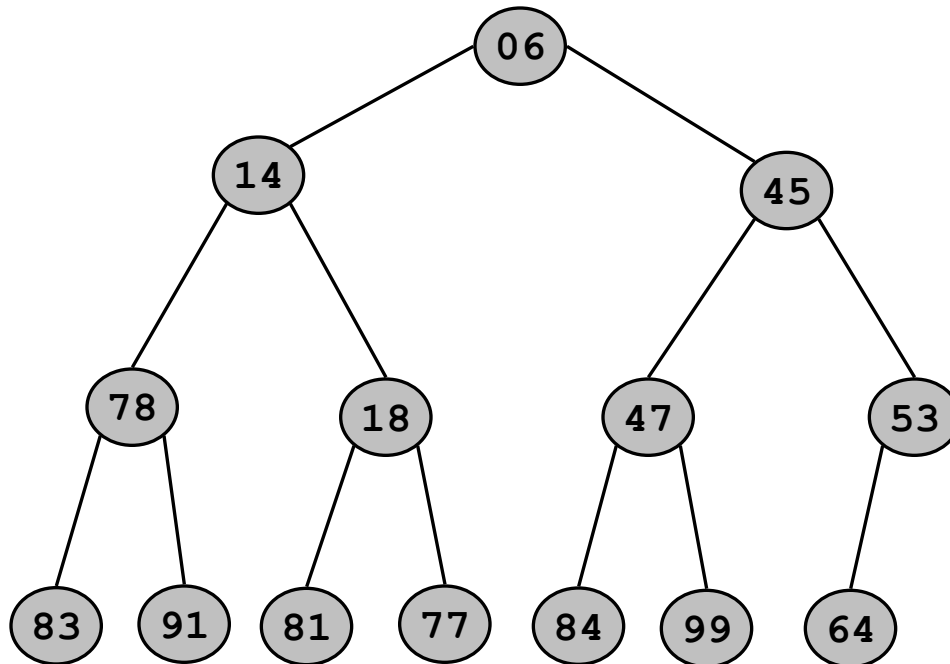
**Exchange argument.** Gradually transform any solution to the one found by the greedy algorithm without hurting its quality.

**Structural.** Discover a simple "structural" bound asserting that every possible solution must have a certain value. Then show that your algorithm always achieves this bound.

# Binary Heap: Definition

## Binary heap.

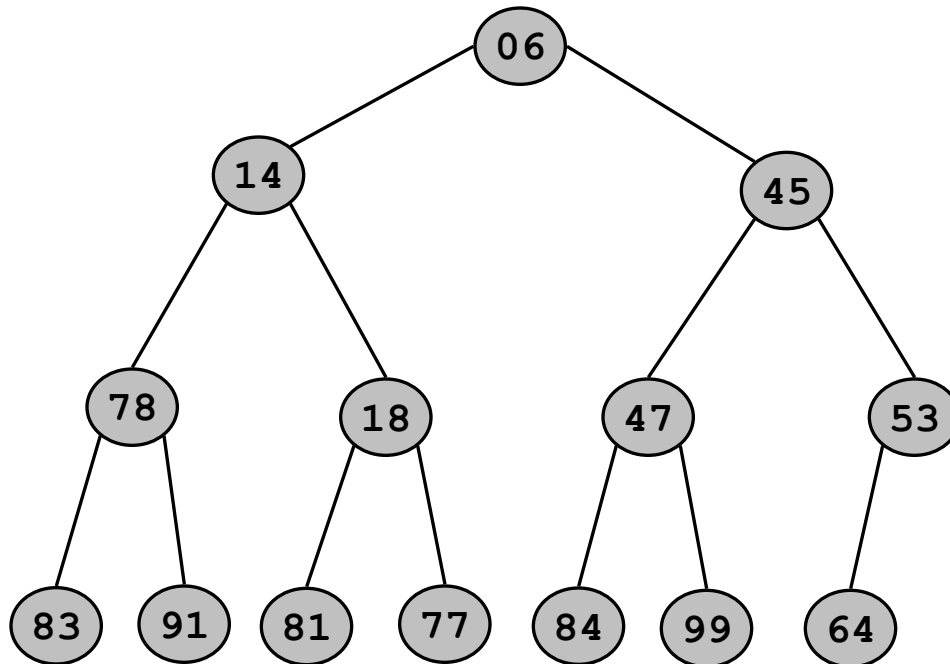
- Almost complete binary tree.
  - filled on all levels, except last, where filled from left to right
- Min-heap ordered.
  - every child greater than (or equal to) parent



# Binary Heap: Properties

## Properties.

- Min element is in root.
- Heap with N elements has height =  $\lfloor \log_2 N \rfloor$ .



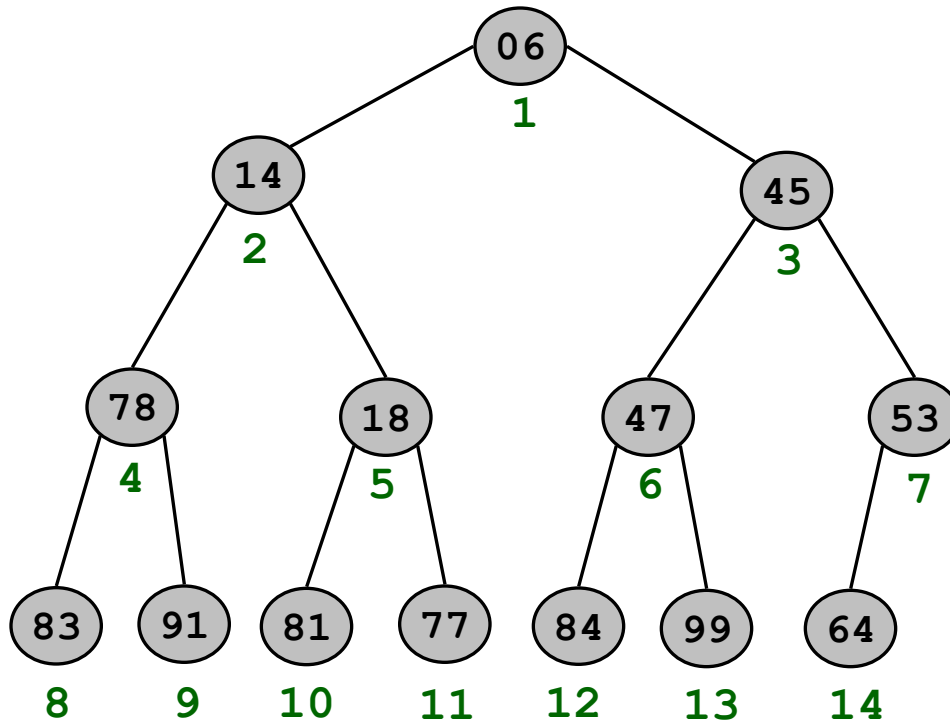
**N = 14**  
**Height = 3**



# Binary Heaps: Array Implementation

## Implementing binary heaps.

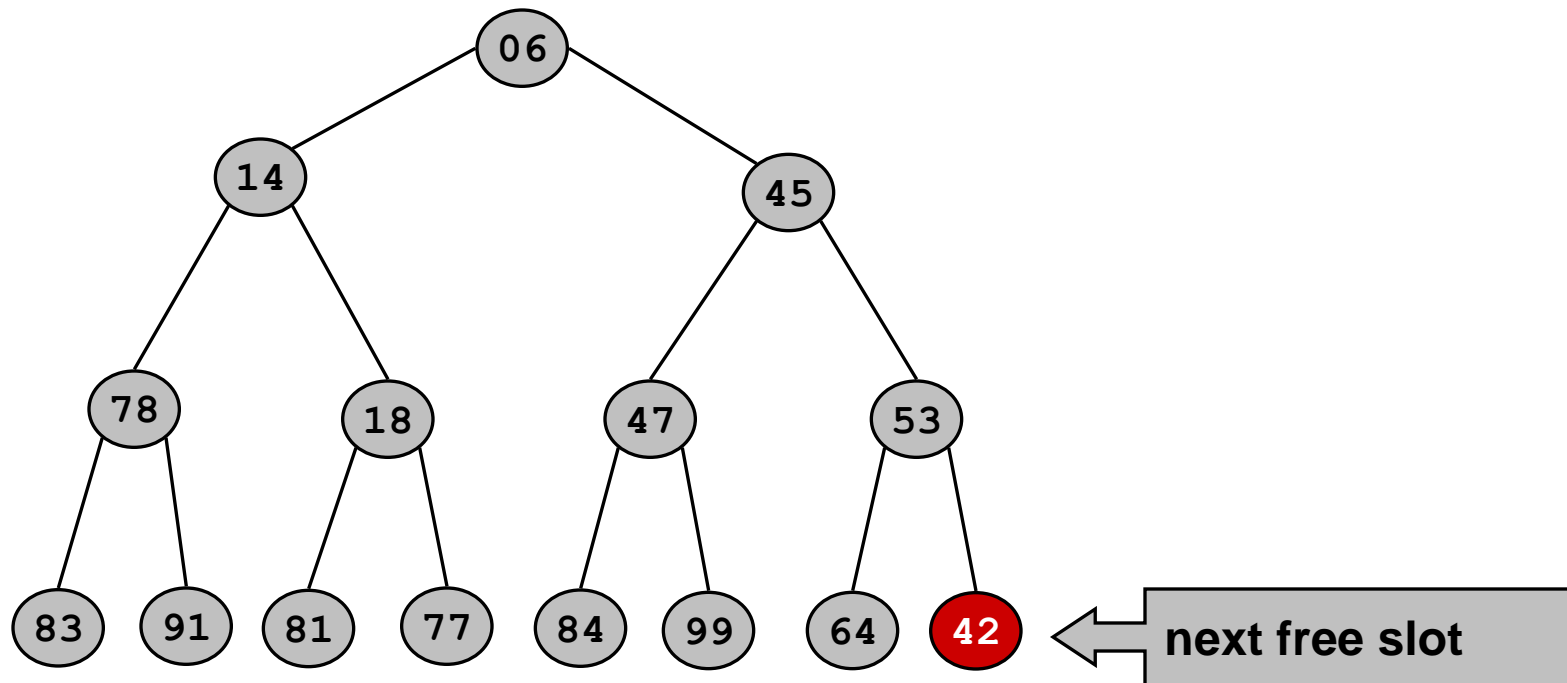
- Use an array: no need for explicit parent or child pointers.
  - $\text{Parent}(i) = \lfloor i/2 \rfloor$
  - $\text{Left}(i) = 2i$
  - $\text{Right}(i) = 2i + 1$



# Binary Heap: Insertion

Insert element  $x$  into heap.

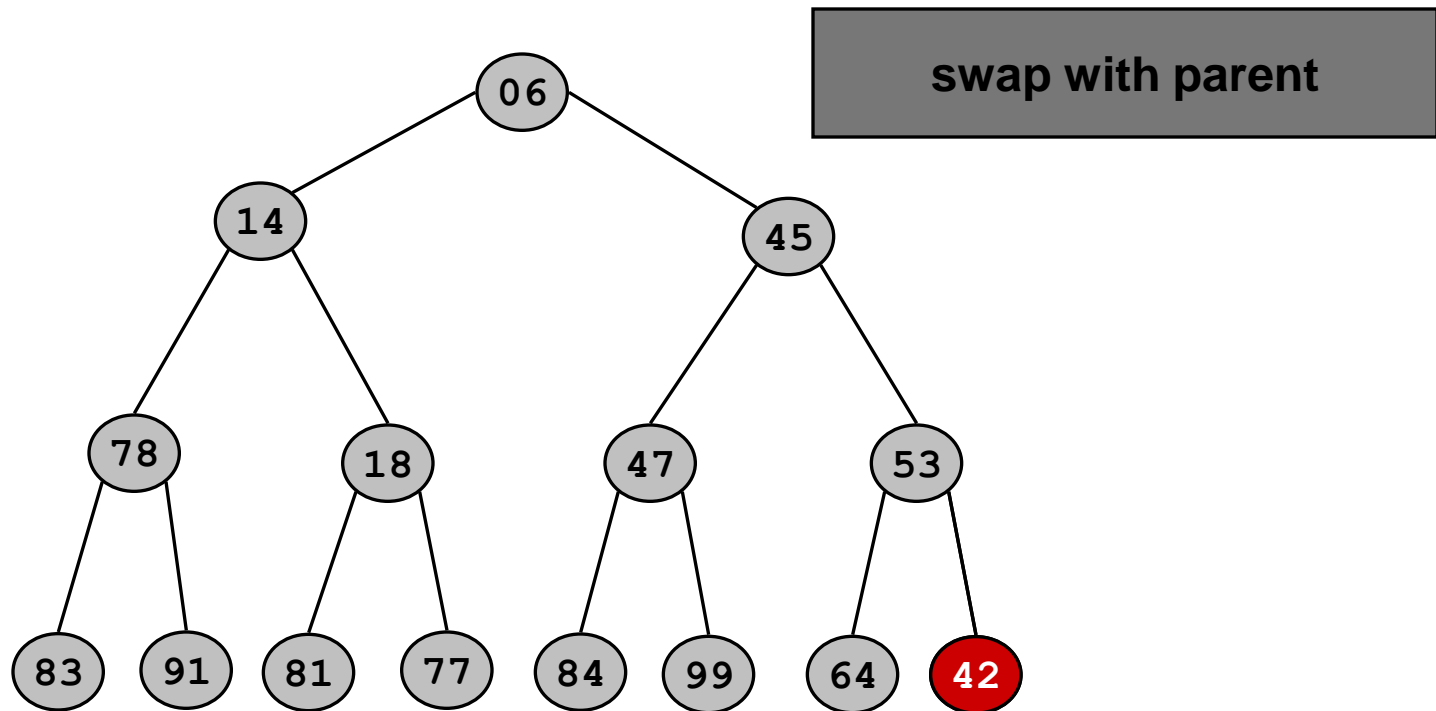
- Insert into next available slot.
- Bubble up until it's heap ordered.
  - Peter principle: nodes rise to level of incompetence



# Binary Heap: Insertion

Insert element  $x$  into heap.

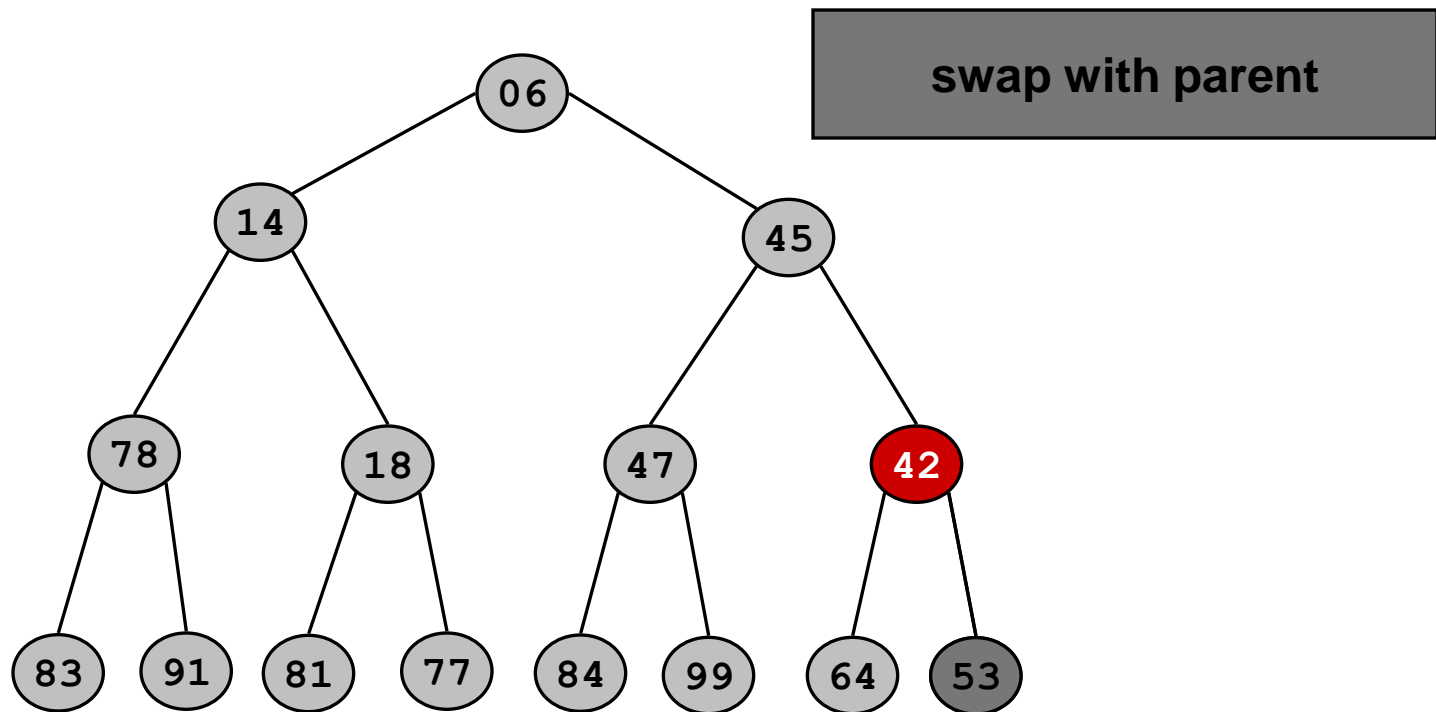
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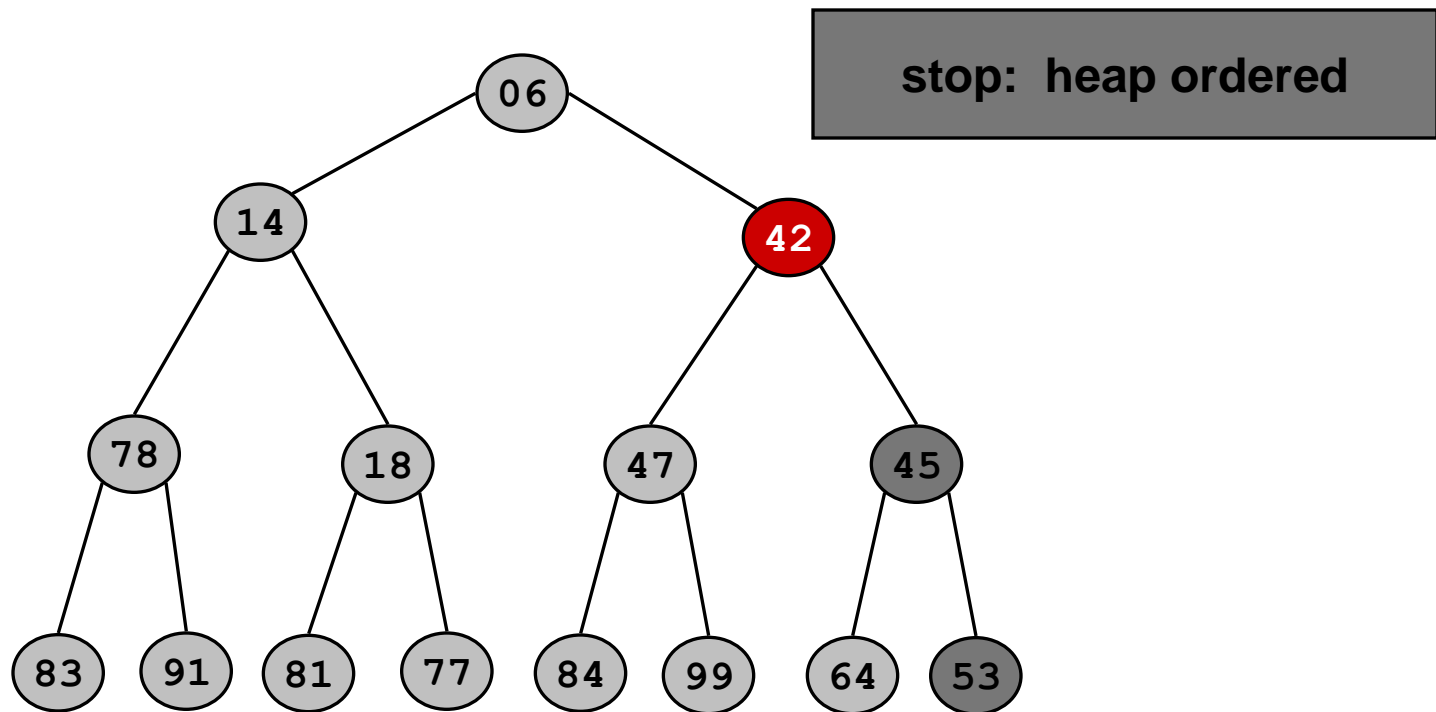
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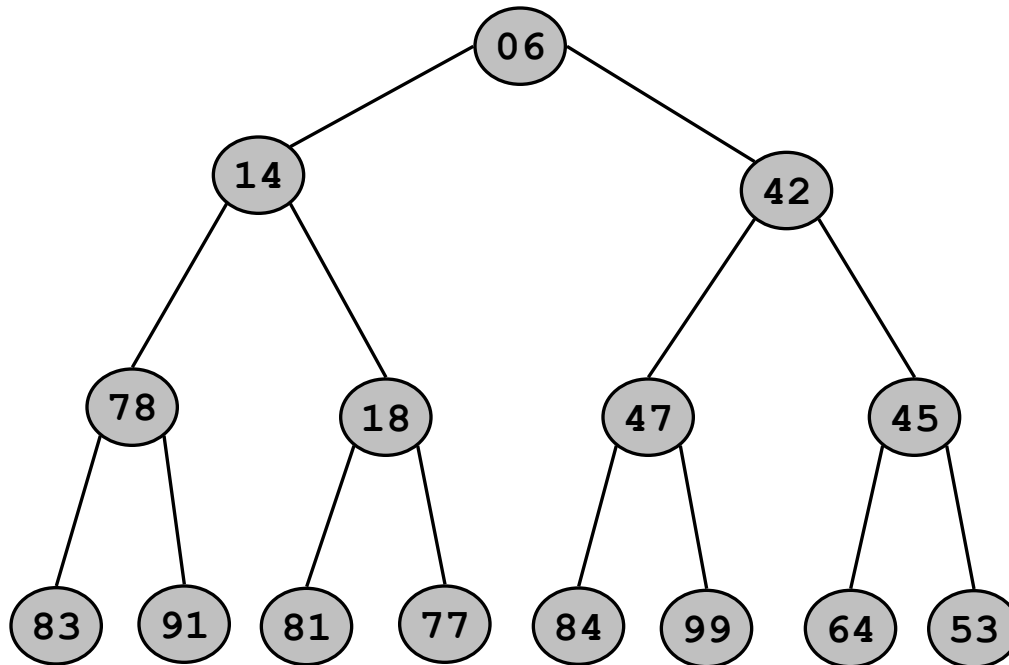
- Insert into next available slot.
- Bubble up until it's heap ordered.
  - Peter principle: nodes rise to level of incompetence
- $O(\log N)$  operations.



# Binary Heap: Decrease Key

Decrease key of element  $x$  to  $k$ .

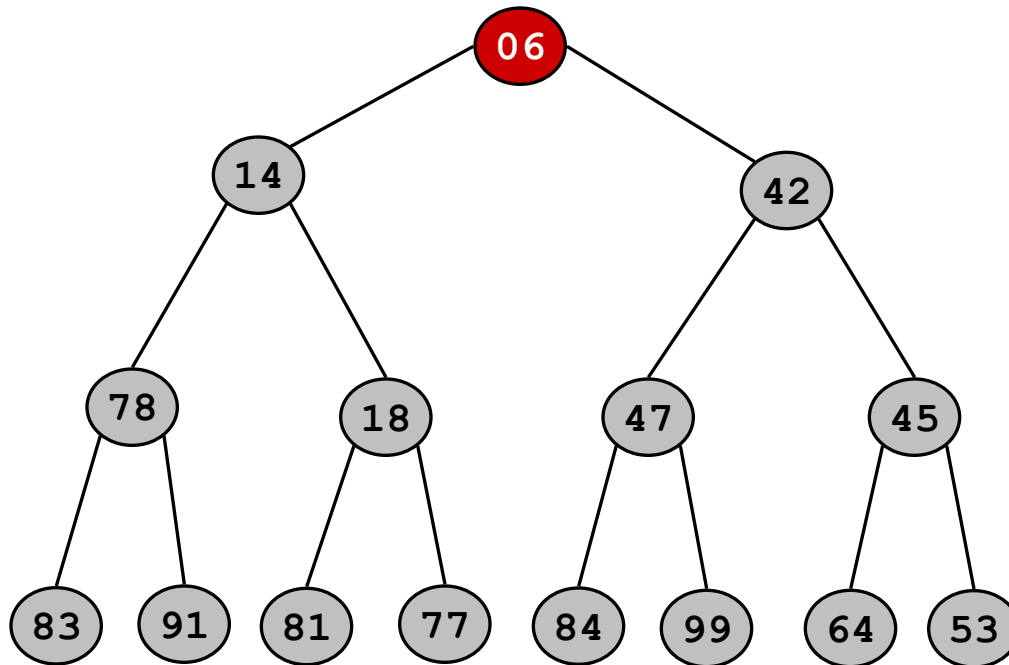
- Bubble up until it's heap ordered.
- $O(\log N)$  operations.



# Binary Heap: Delete Min

Delete minimum element from heap.

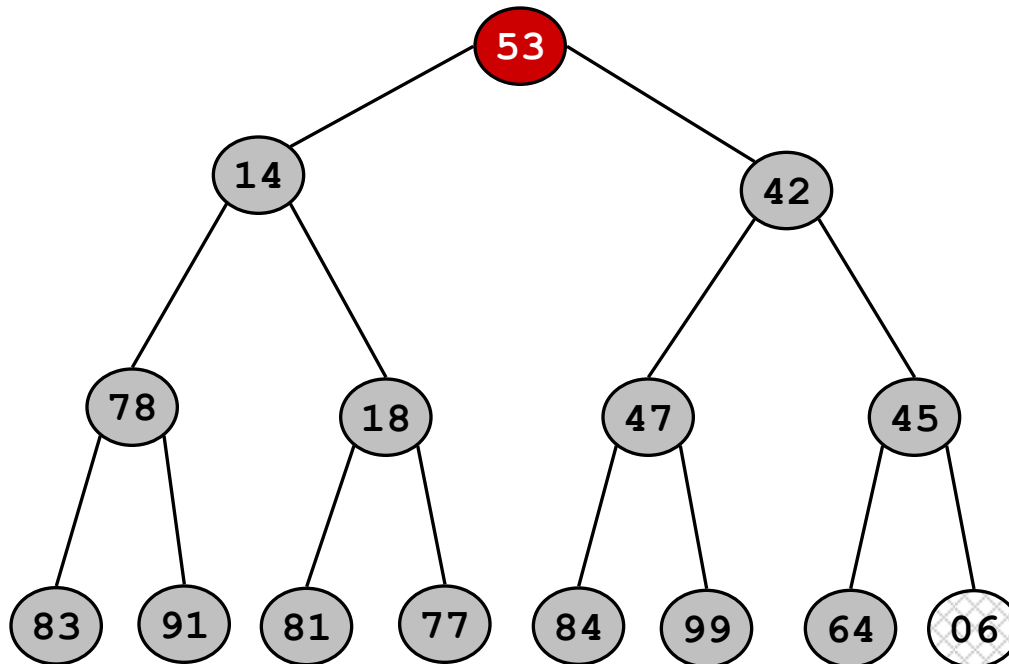
- Exchange root with rightmost leaf.
- Bubble root down until it's heap ordered.
  - power struggle principle: better subordinate is promoted



# Binary Heap: Delete Min

Delete minimum element from heap.

- Exchange root with rightmost leaf.
- Bubble root down until it's heap ordered.
  - power struggle principle: better subordinate is promoted

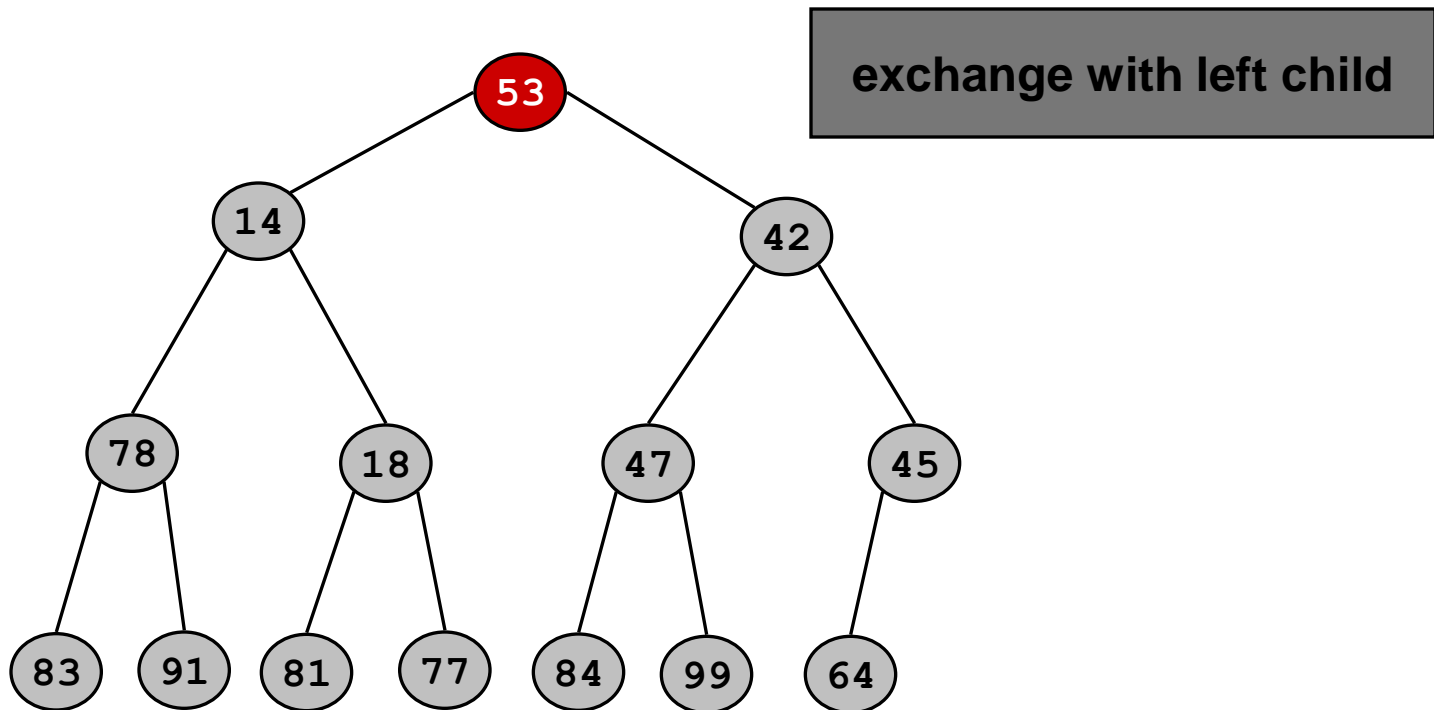




# Binary Heap: Delete Min

Delete minimum element from heap.

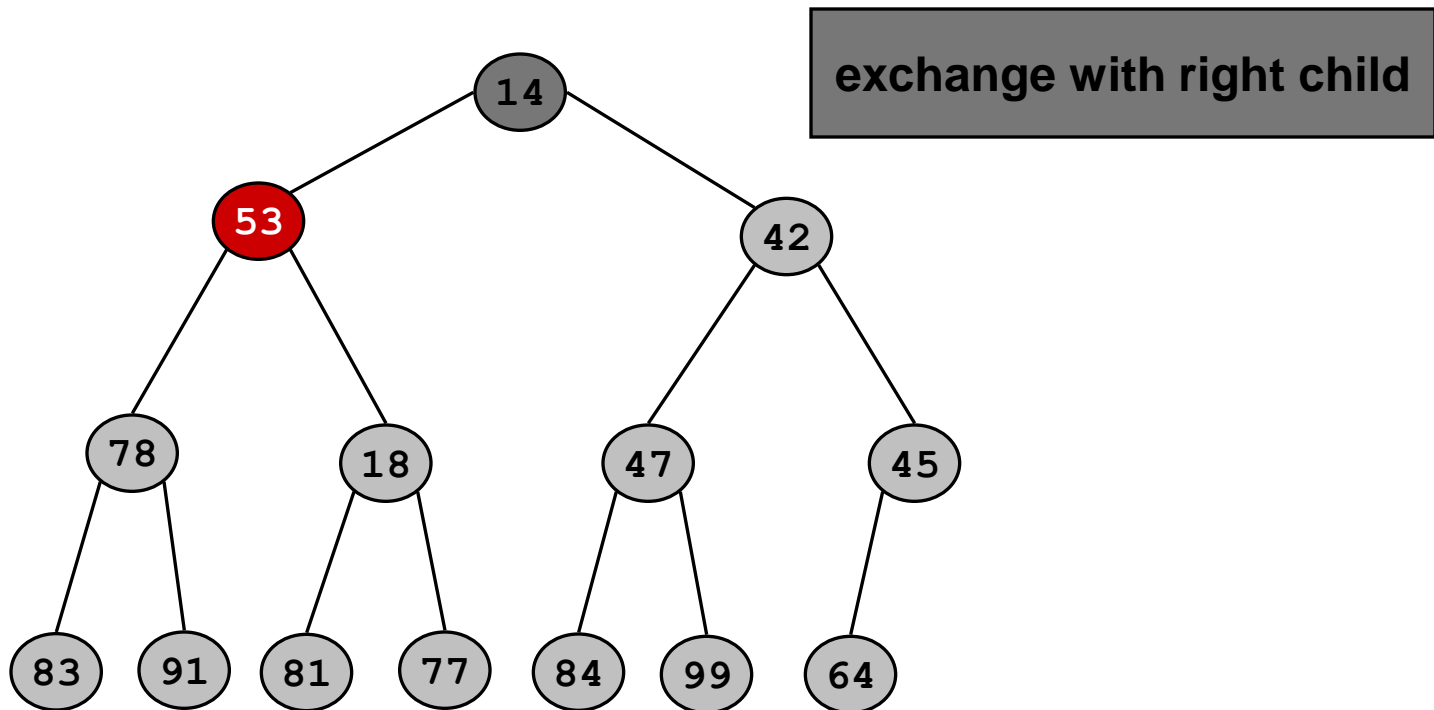
- Exchange root with rightmost leaf.
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  - power struggle principle: better subordinate is promoted



# Binary Heap: Delete Min

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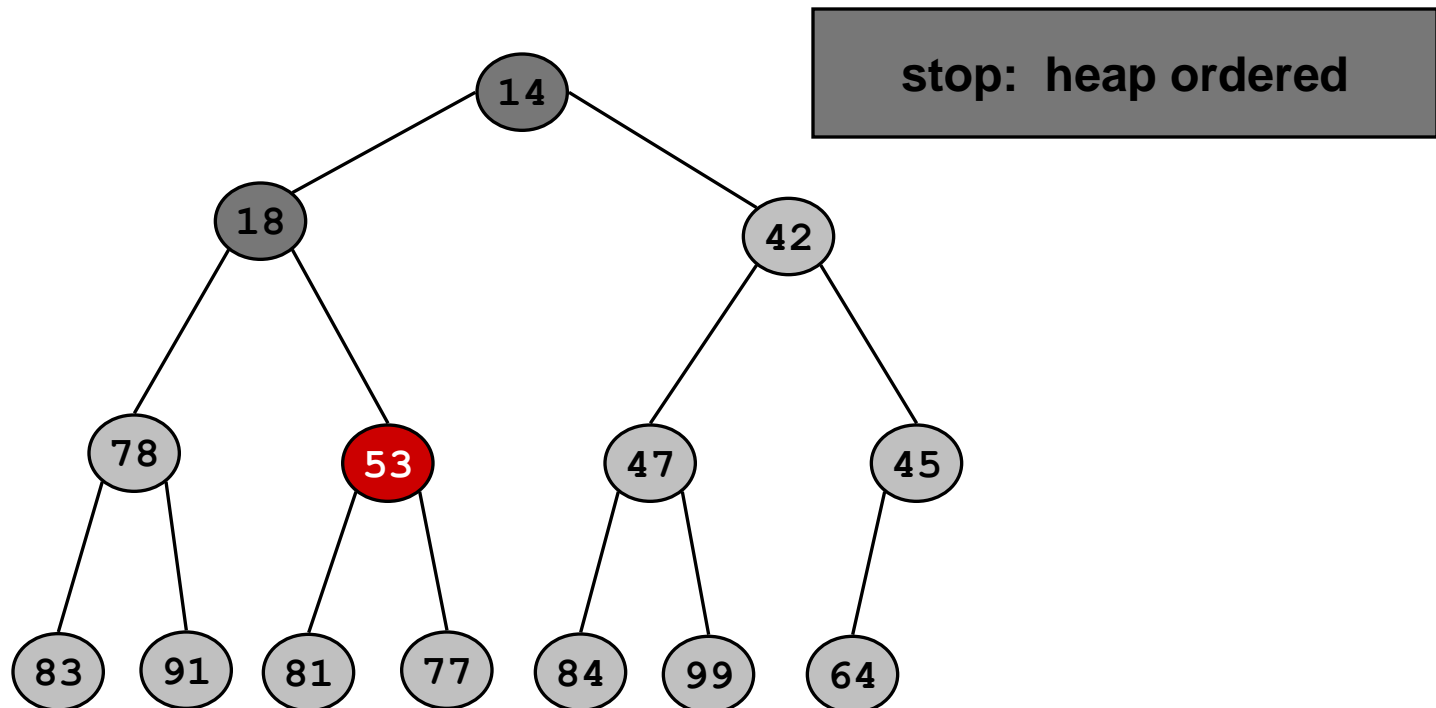
- Exchange root with rightmost leaf.
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# Binary Heap: Delete Min

Delete minimum element from heap.

- Exchange root with rightmost leaf.
- Bubble root down until it's heap ordered.
  - power struggle principle: better subordinate is promoted
- $O(\log N)$  operations.



# Binary Heap: Heapsort

## Heapsort.

- Insert  $N$  items into binary heap.
- Perform  $N$  delete-min operations.
- $O(N \log N)$  sort.
- No extra storage.

## Exercices

- Simule a execução do heapsort para lista dada pelas prioridades  
18 25 41 34 10 52 50 48

## Exercices

- A operação  $\text{descer}(i)$ , desce com o  $i$ -ésimo elemento até que ele esteja na posição correta, ou seja, tenha prioridade menor que seus filhos
- A operação  $\text{subir}(i)$ , sobe com o  $i$ -ésimo elemento até que ele esteja na posição correta, ou seja, tenha prioridade maior que seu pai
- Dado uma lista  $a[1], \dots, a[n]$ , de  $n$  prioridades, considere os seguintes métodos para construir um heap

```
HeapBuild1  
For  $i=n/2$  downto 1  
    Descer( $a[i]$ )
```

```
HeapBuild2  
For  $i=2$  to  $n$   
    Subir ( $a[i]$ )
```

Análise a complexidade dos dois algoritmos

# Solution

HeapBuild 2

$$\sum_{i=2}^n \lfloor \log i \rfloor = \Theta(\log n)$$

HeapBuild 1

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\log n - 1} 2^i i = \Theta(n)$$

## Exercices

- Um sistema consiste de uma série de componentes  $C=\{o(1),\dots,o(n)\}$ .
- O sistema é dito confiável se e somente se **todos** os seus componentes funcionam.
- O custo para testar o funcionamento de  $o(i)$  é  $c(i)$
- Probabilidade de  $o(i)$  falhar é  $p(i)$ .
- Assuma que as probabilidades de falha são mutuamente independentes
- Deseja-se projetar um algoritmo para testar a confiabilidade do sistema minimizando o custo esperado dos testes.

A) Considere um algoritmo que testa os componentes em ordem crescente de custos. Ele é ótimo ? Por que ?

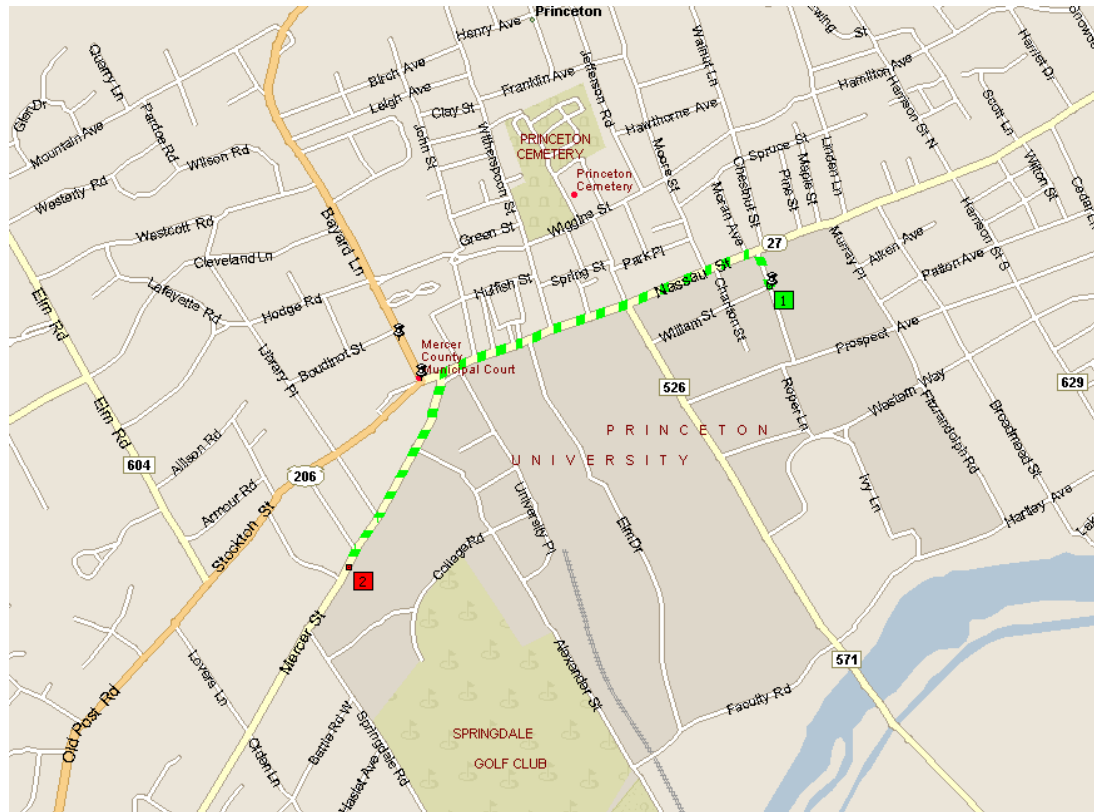
B) Considere agora um algoritmo que testa os componentes em ordem crescente de  $c(i) / p(i)$ . Ele é ótimo ? Por que ?



## Solution

- Considere uma ordem  $P$  para os componentes. Seja  $p_i$  a probabilidade de falha do  $i$ -ésimo componente da lista e  $c_i$  seu custo. Então
  - Contribuição do  $j$ -ésimo elemento componente da lista para o custo esperado é  $(1-p_1)(1-p_2)\dots(1-p_{j-1})c_j$ .
  - O custo esperado da ordem é a soma das contribuições de seus componentes
  - Mostre que em uma solução com inversões é possível trocar a ordem de dois componentes consecutivos melhorando o custo

# 4.4 Shortest Paths in a Graph



shortest path from Princeton CS department to Einstein's house

# Shortest Path Problem

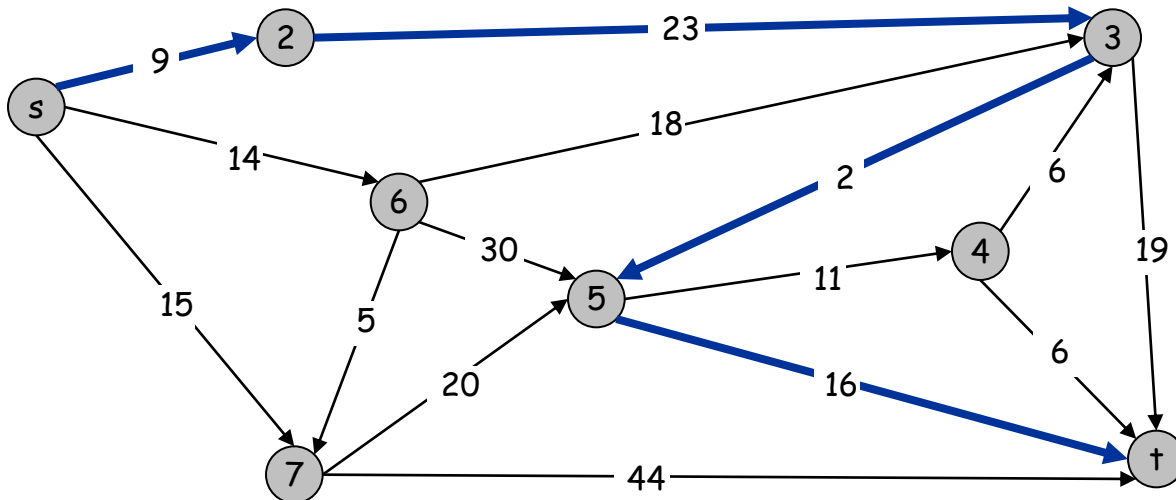
## Shortest path network.

- Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
- Source  $s$ , destination  $t$ .
- Length  $c_e =$  length of edge  $e$ . (non-negative numbers)

Shortest path problem: find shortest directed path from  $s$  to  $t$ .



cost of path = sum of edge costs in path

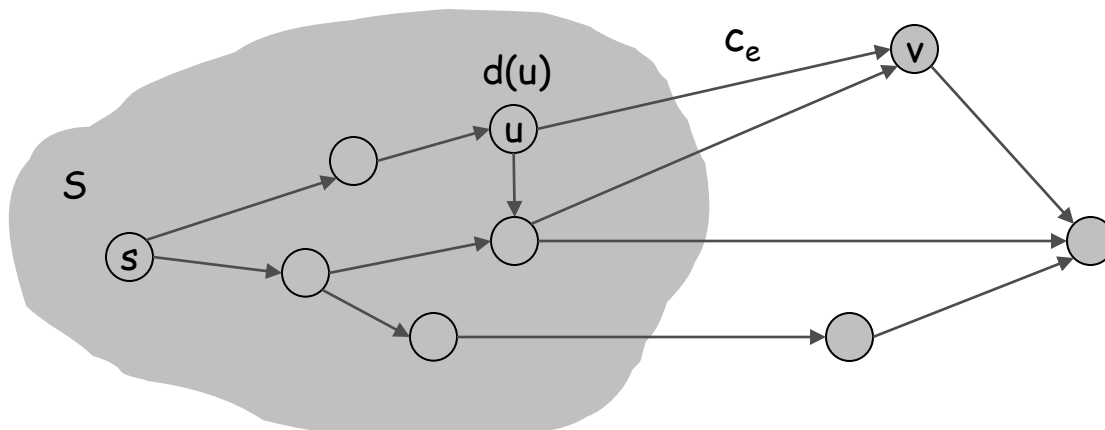


Cost of path  $s-2-3-5-t$   
 $= 9 + 23 + 2 + 16$   
 $= 50.$

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

## Approach

- Find the node closest to the  $s$ , then the second closest, then the third closest, and so on ...
- Key observation:
  - the shortest path from  $s$  to the  $k$ -th closest node can be decomposed as the shortest path from  $s$  to the  $i$ -th closest node (for some  $i < k$ ) and an edge from the  $i$ -th closest node to the  $k$ -th closest node.



# Dijkstra's Algorithm

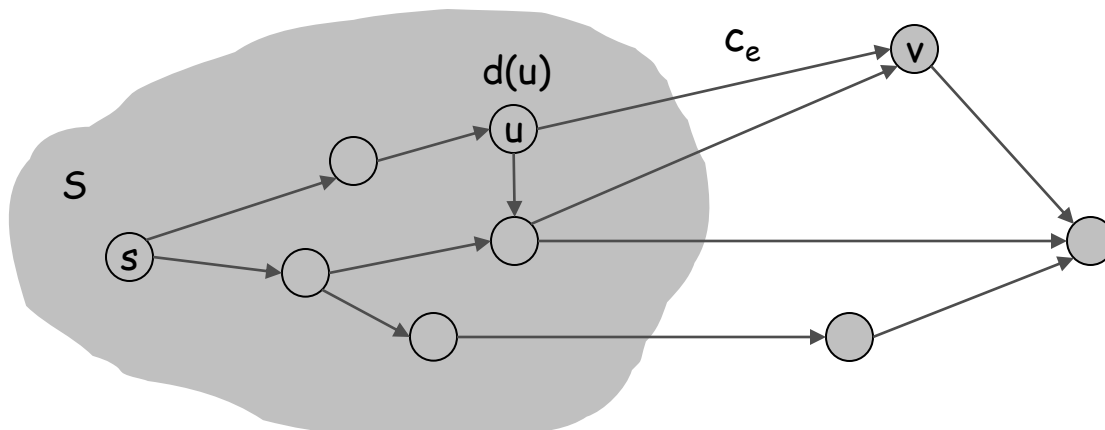
## Dijkstra's algorithm.

- Maintain a set of **explored nodes**  $S$  for which we have determined the shortest path distance  $d(u)$  from  $s$  to  $u$ .
- Initialize  $S = \{s\}$ ,  $d(s) = 0$ .
- Repeatedly choose unexplored node  $v$  which minimizes

$$\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v): u \in S} d(u) + c_e,$$

add  $v$  to  $S$ , and set  $d(v) = \pi(v)$ .

← shortest path to some  $u$  in explored part, followed by a single edge  $(u, v)$



# Dijkstra's Algorithm

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## Complexity (Naïve Implementation)

- $n$  loops, one for each node
- $(n+m)$  to find the the node with minimum  $\pi$
- $\rightarrow O(n(n+m))$  time

# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Implementation

For each unexplored node, explicitly maintain  $\pi(v) = \min_{e=(u,v):u \in S} d(u) + c_e$ .

- Next node to explore = node with minimum  $\pi(v)$ .
- When exploring  $v$ , for each incident edge  $e = (v, w)$ , update

$$\pi(w) = \min \{ \pi(w), \pi(v) + c_e \}.$$

**Efficient implementation.** Maintain a priority queue of unexplored nodes, prioritized by  $\pi(v)$ .



PQ Operation	Dijkstra	Array	Binary heap
Insert	$n$	$n$	$\log n$
ExtractMin	$n$	$n$	$\log n$
ChangeKey	$m$	1	$\log n$
IsEmpty	$n$	1	1
Total		$n^2$	$m \log n$

† Individual ops are amortized bounds

# Dijkstra's Algorithm

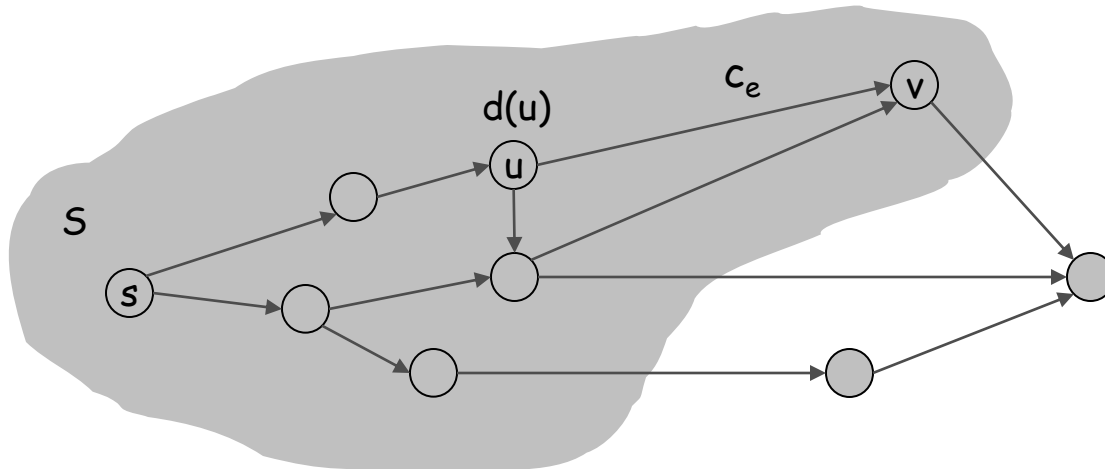
## Dijkstra's algorithm.

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# Dijkstra's Algorithm: Proof of Correctness

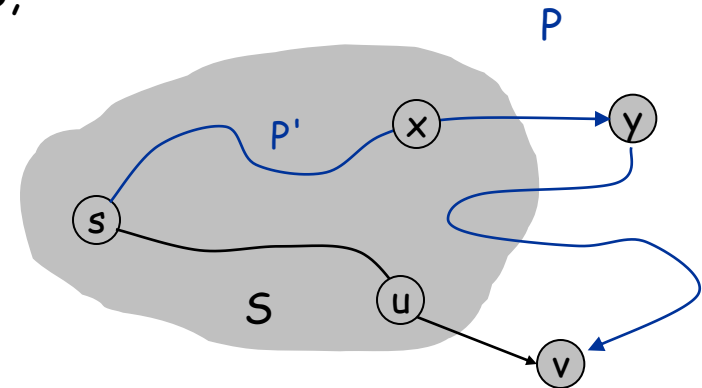
**Invariant.** For each node  $u \in S$ ,  $d(u)$  is the length of the shortest  $s$ - $u$  path.

**Pf.** (by induction on  $|S|$ )

**Base case:**  $|S| = 1$  is trivial.

**Inductive hypothesis:** Assume true for  $|S| = k \geq 1$ .

- Let  $v$  be next node added to  $S$ , and let  $u$ - $v$  be the chosen edge.
- The shortest  $s$ - $u$  path plus  $(u, v)$  is an  $s$ - $v$  path of length  $\pi(v)$ .
- Consider any  $s$ - $v$  path  $P$ . We'll see that it's no shorter than  $\pi(v)$ .
- Let  $x$ - $y$  be the first edge in  $P$  that leaves  $S$ , and let  $P'$  be the subpath to  $x$ .
- $P$  is already too long as soon as it leaves  $S$ .



$$c(P) \geq c(P') + c(x, y) \geq d(x) + c(x, y) \geq \pi(y) \geq \pi(v)$$

$\uparrow$  nonnegative weights       $\uparrow$  inductive hypothesis       $\uparrow$  defn of  $\pi(y)$        $\uparrow$  Dijkstra chose  $v$  instead of  $y$

# Extra Slides

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# Exercices: Coin Changing

Greed is good. Greed is right. Greed works.  
Greed clarifies, cuts through, and captures the  
essence of the evolutionary spirit.

- *Gordon Gecko (Michael Douglas)*



# Coin Changing

**Goal.** Given currency denominations: 1, 5, 10, 25, 100, devise a method to pay amount to customer using fewest number of coins.

**Ex:** 34¢.



**Cashier's algorithm.** At each iteration, add coin of the largest value that does not take us past the amount to be paid.

**Ex:** \$2.89.



## Coin-Changing: Greedy Algorithm

**Cashier's algorithm.** At each iteration, add coin of the largest value that does not take us past the amount to be paid.

```
Sort coins denominations by value:  $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_n$ .
```

```
    ↙ coins selected  
S ←  $\phi$   
while (x ≠ 0) {  
    let k be largest integer such that  $c_k \leq x$   
    if (k = 0)  
        return "no solution found"  
    x ← x -  $c_k$   
    S ← S ∪ {k}  
}  
return S
```

Q. Is cashier's algorithm optimal?

## Coin-Changing: Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

**Theorem.** Greedy is optimal for U.S. coinage: 1, 5, 10, 25, 100.

**Pf.** (by induction on  $x$ )

- Consider optimal way to change  $c_k \leq x < c_{k+1}$  : greedy takes coin  $k$ .
- We claim that any optimal solution must also take coin  $k$ .
  - if not, it needs enough coins of type  $c_1, \dots, c_{k-1}$  to add up to  $x$
  - table below indicates no optimal solution can do this
- Problem reduces to coin-changing  $x - c_k$  cents, which, by induction, is optimally solved by greedy algorithm. ▪

$k$	$c_k$	All optimal solutions must satisfy	Max value of coins 1, 2, ..., $k-1$ in any OPT
1	1	$P \leq 4$	-
2	5	$N \leq 1$	4
3	10	$N + D \leq 2$	$4 + 5 = 9$
4	25	$Q \leq 3$	$20 + 4 = 24$
5	100	no limit	$75 + 24 = 99$

# Coin-Changing: Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

**Observation.** Greedy algorithm is sub-optimal for US postal denominations: 1, 10, 21, 34, 70, 100, 350, 1225, 1500.

**Counterexample.** 140¢.

- Greedy: 100, 34, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1.
- Optimal: 70, 70.



# Selecting Breakpoints

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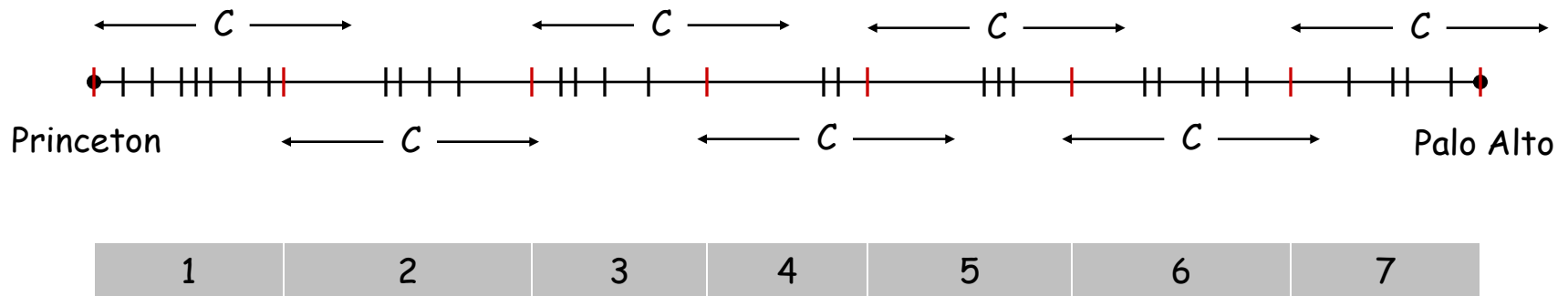


# Selecting Breakpoints

## Selecting breakpoints.

- Road trip from Princeton to Palo Alto along fixed route.
- Refueling stations at certain points along the way.
- Fuel capacity =  $C$ .
- Goal: makes as few refueling stops as possible.

*Greedy algorithm.* Go as far as you can before refueling.



# Selecting Breakpoints: Greedy Algorithm

Truck driver's algorithm.

```
Sort breakpoints so that:  $0 = b_0 < b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_n = L$ 
```

```
 $S \leftarrow \{0\}$  ← breakpoints selected
```

```
 $x \leftarrow 0$  ← current location
```

```
while ( $x \neq b_n$ )  
    let  $p$  be largest integer such that  $b_p \leq x + C$   
    if ( $b_p = x$ )  
        return "no solution"  
     $x \leftarrow b_p$   
     $S \leftarrow S \cup \{p\}$   
return  $S$ 
```

Implementation.  $O(n \log n)$

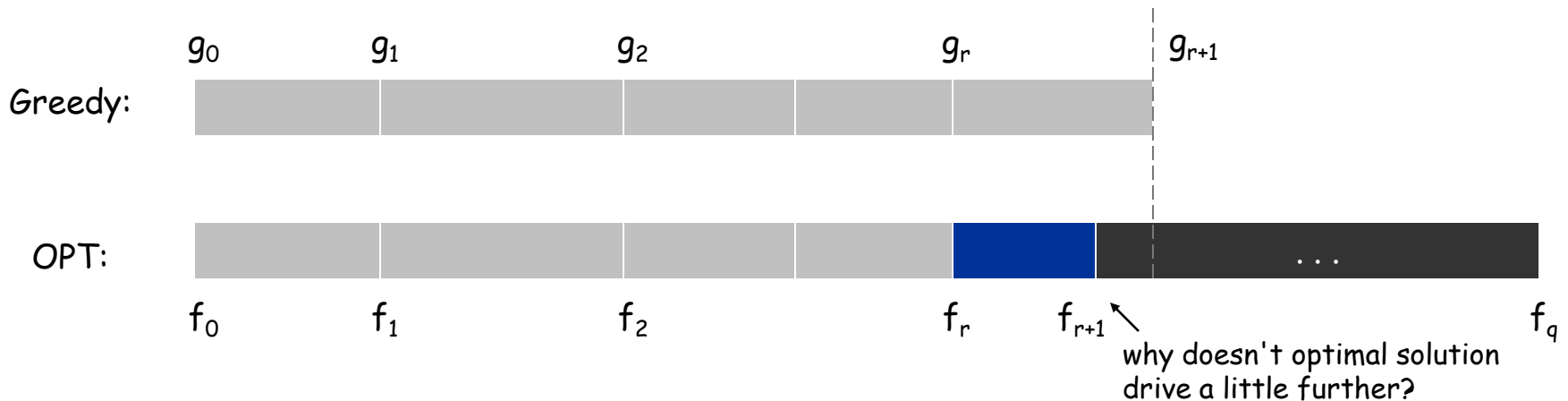
- Use binary search to select each breakpoint  $p$ .

# Selecting Breakpoints: Correctness

**Theorem.** Greedy algorithm is optimal.

**Pf.** (by contradiction)

- Assume greedy is not optimal, and let's see what happens.
- Let  $0 = g_0 < g_1 < \dots < g_p = L$  denote set of breakpoints chosen by greedy.
- Let  $0 = f_0 < f_1 < \dots < f_q = L$  denote set of breakpoints in an optimal solution with  $f_0 = g_0, f_1 = g_1, \dots, f_r = g_r$  for largest possible value of  $r$ .
- Note:  $g_{r+1} > f_{r+1}$  by greedy choice of algorithm.



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